



Does New York want a communist mayor?

There's nothing too dumb for the left to parrot in its quest for power

Washington Times, By Everett Piper, June 30, 2025

In 1924, G.K. Chesterton wrote, “Why is it that for the last two or three centuries, the educated have been generally wrong and the uneducated relatively right? ... What the educated man has generally done was to ram down everybody’s throat some premature and priggish theory which he himself afterward discovered to be wrong; so wrong that he himself generally recoiled from it and went staggering to the opposite extreme.”

These days, it seems we can hardly watch anything coming out of the Democratic Party without concluding that Chesterton, the man dubbed the “Prince of Paradox,” was also a modern-day prophet.

Whether it be the science-denying misogyny of transgender sports, the historical dishonesty of Nikole Hannah-Jones, the constitutional ignorance of Rep. Jasmine Crockett, the borderline criminality of Dr. Anthony Fauci or the unmitigated dopiness of Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, we see it over and over again: The left simply can’t help itself. There seems to be no “priggish theory” that is too dumb for these people to parrot in their quest for power.

Consider last week’s poster child of such hubris: Zohran Mamdani, the 33-year-old failed rapper and trust fund child who just won the Democratic primary to become the next mayor of New York City.

Mr. Mamdani coasted to victory in Tuesday’s primary by promising government-run community grocery stores and mandating that all landlords and property owners freeze rent. He also offered an endless menu of government goodies, such as free childcare and free public transportation. In other words, Zohran Mamdani is an unapologetic communist.

Herein lies the prescience of Chesterton. By all measures, Mr. Mamdani’s worldview is a failed ideology. Despite its promises of happiness for all and the brotherhood of man, communism always implodes upon itself with corruption, greed and endless human suffering.

Or, in the words of Art Carden, writing for The Daily Economy, “Experiments with communism have a distressing tendency to descend into mass murder.” Why? Because the very nature of communism seeks to redefine not only economics but also man.

Mr. Carden cites Lord Acton’s seminal thesis that “power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.” This, says Mr. Carden, explains the endemic failures of communism. “People [may have] meant well when they got started,” he says, “but having so much power derails them.” Or, to paraphrase Friedrich Hayek: “The worst always seems to rise to the top.”

In other words, power attracts, and power corrupts. People crave it, and as a result, evil men end up in positions of power. Hence, you have the horrors of the Killing Fields and Holodomor.

Mr. Carden goes on. “Communist regimes [always] move quickly into oppression and mass murder [because] communism is ‘born bad’ and “ultimately cannot be attained without imposing its ‘ideal of totalitarianism.’” Thus, the one indisputable lesson of history is that the bad idea of communism always ends badly.

The Soviet Union, for example, was the world’s first official communist state, and it failed miserably. In the end, at least 20 million people died at the hands of Vladimir Lenin and Josef Stalin, who, through collectivization, centralized control and wealth redistribution, plunged their nation into stagnation, failure and famine.

Maoist China is another example. Mao Zedong’s Great Leap Forward was a catastrophic disaster. His march against capitalism and traditional values resulted in unimaginable suffering for the Chinese people. Businessmen, teachers and perceived political enemies were targeted and purged.

Social chaos and economic disruption ensued. At least 70 million people were killed under his banner of social justice and free stuff for all. Then we have the modern-day case study of North Korea, which represents one of the most extreme examples of the horrific consequences of centralized planning and government overreach. Kim Jong-un’s control of all aspects of business and private life has resulted in devastating food shortages, lack of basic infrastructure and widespread poverty across the nation.

The examples could go on and on — Cuba, Cambodia, Venezuela, Vietnam — as the failures of every communist movement ever tried highlight the consequences of implementing a system that leads only to economic inefficiency, political repression and human suffering.

Although the ideology promises equity, lack of want and imaginations of John Lennon's utopia, the practical outcomes are always decline, despair, dystopia and death. King Solomon once said, "As a dog returns to his vomit, so a fool returns to his folly." The political philosopher George Santayana echoed the same when he wrote, "He who doesn't learn the lessons of history is doomed to repeat them."

The voters of New York are about to learn the hard way that Solomon, Santayana and Chesterton were all right if they actually vote for Zohran Mamdani to be their mayor in November.

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Mamdani a gift to Trump, Vance and Rubio

Mr. Free Stuff will make life easier for Republicans in the run-up to 2028

Washington Times, by Michael Mckenna, June 30, 2025

Zohran Mamdani won the New York City Democratic primary for mayor, immediately becoming the favorite to win the general mayoral election — and an object of both adulation and concern.

Mr. Mamdani defeated former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, and in so doing destroyed what remained of the now unloved, unhonored and unlamented Cuomo political dynasty, which has dominated politics in New York for more than 40 years. Good riddance.

Because most of the truly bad ideas in American government start in or around New York City, it is worth taking a moment to think about what Mr. Mamdani's victory might mean for those of us who live elsewhere.

It's important not to read too much into any single election. That said, the most simple and enduring rule in campaigns is that something always beats nothing. Mr. Cuomo didn't bother to explain what he intended to do as mayor; he just collected endorsements and cash (about \$30 million). In contrast, whatever you think of his ideas, Mr. Mamdani, a New York state representative, aggressively presented a coherent and fairly thorough set of policies that he believes will improve the quality of life of New Yorkers.

Those ideas are, of course, what we are going to spend the next few months discussing. Mr. Mamdani wants the city to run grocery stores, provide “free” childcare and “free” mass transit, set the minimum wage at \$30 per hour, freeze rents, defund the police, globalize the intifada, etc.

Keep in mind, this is a city where residents already pay the highest taxes in the nation, a city that has surrendered to shoplifters (locking goods in cabinets), criminals, fare jumpers, vagrants living in the transit system, failing schools, illegal immigrants housed in midtown hotels on the taxpayer tab and more.

For Democrats, a Mamdani campaign will be a nightmare. Even if he loses, he is not going away; his agenda and rhetoric will set the tone for the party into the 2026 election cycle. Should he win, which is certainly possible — and may be likely given that the city broke for Vice President Kamala Harris by 38 percentage points in November — he will be the best-known Democrat in the United States well into the 2028 presidential election cycle. Consequently, his agenda will be the de facto starting point for Democrats for some time.

That makes sense. All the energy in the Democratic Party is found on the farthest leftward part of the spectrum and has been for at least a decade. The “moderates” — the ones who want only half your money and are willing to tolerate 10 million illegal immigrants but no more — have been marginalized for obvious reasons. Why buy a bad copy when you can buy the original?

Mr. Mamdani is a faithful representative of the new Democratic Party, a party that is culturally at war with most of America, especially working-class America, a party whose identity is now entirely associated with all the worst impulses of the left. That is a lovely gift for a Republican Party that is having trouble finding its north star on policy and is likely to have an identity crisis of its own in 2028.

Candidates and elected officials like Mr. Mamdani also will make things infinitely easier for President Trump as he sails toward the last few years of his tenure and provide perfect foils for Republican presidential primary contestants in 2028.

As for the people of New York City? One of the most difficult and durable rules of life is that you really can’t help people who refuse to help themselves. Some residents, like Mr. Trump, will join the diaspora and leave the city, which may lose as many as three congressional seats after the next reapportionment and which has already lost 800,000 people in the past five years.

They will move, as they have done for years, to the South and West and will immediately start annoying their neighbors by complaining that their new community is not as good as New York. But none of them will ever go home.

New York Democrats select socialism

Marxist mayoral candidate prevails in liberal primary

Washington Times Editorial, June 30, 2025

The Big Apple is one step closer to electing a radical leftist mayor. In the Democratic primary Tuesday, Zohran Mamdani won the byzantine ranked choice contest where an algorithm says he defeated former Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

That means the 33-year-old newcomer will face Mayor Eric Adams in November's general election. "As mayor, I will create a network of city-owned grocery stores," Mr. Mamdani promised in a video. "It's like a public option for produce. ... These stores will operate without a profit motive or having to pay property taxes or rent."

It's safe to say this man, who has been a U.S. citizen for only seven years, won't be endorsing any "America First" policies as the city's top official. "He is not an [American] at all. He was born in Uganda, raised between India and America. He is at home in many places. He thinks of himself as a Ugandan and as an Indian," his mother, Mira Nair, said in an interview with the Hindustan Times.

As soon as Mr. Mamdani arrived at these shores and headed to college, he began agitating for Hamas. "I was somebody who began my journey in organizing and in politics by co-founding my school's first Students for Justice in Palestine. The struggle for Palestinian liberation was at the core of my politics and continues to be," Mr. Mamdani proclaimed in an address two years ago to the Democratic Socialists of America.

White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller questioned the wisdom of elevating someone who shares no allegiance to this nation or its values. "The commentary about NYC Democrats nominating an anarchist socialist for Mayor omits one point: how unchecked migration fundamentally remade the NYC electorate," he wrote on X. "Democrats change politics by changing voters. That's how you turn a city that defined US dominance into what it is now."

According to city estimates, "international inflows of humanitarian migrants" during the Biden administration added more than 360,000 to the city's population as 790,000 residents fled the rising crime and tax rates. Such demographic shifts have profound effects on political outcomes.

The result is that 3.1 million New Yorkers weren't born in this country. Although Mr. Mamdani campaigned on a platform of giving noncitizens as many freebies as possible, it was guilt-ridden, wealthy White liberals who proved to be his most enthusiastic supporters.

That wasn't because Mr. Mamdani had an impressive resume. He was a community organizer who made a successful bid for a seat in the State Assembly. At the time, Mr. Mamdani highlighted his intention to give felons the vote, not that he thinks anyone should spend a moment behind bars.

His agenda included ending cash bail, legalizing prostitution and drug possession, reducing all prison sentences, prohibiting cooperation with immigration authorities and defunding the New York Police Department.

"Another world is possible, one where instead of consigning people to the violence of incarceration, we create space for them to heal and thrive," Mr. Mamdani wrote on X. This insurgent may find Mr. Adams, who is running as an independent, a more formidable challenge. After Mr. Adams complained about President Biden's "broken immigration policies [that] overloaded our shelter system," the Justice Department diminished his reelection prospects with criminal corruption charges.

Should Mr. Mamdani prevail, he would join other out-of-the-closet socialists such as Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson in ruining a great American metropolis. Expect the escape from New York to continue, as fed-up residents flock to Palm Beach.

From Iran's comeuppance to New York's primary, Democrats are flailing

Many of the Democratic Party's most cherished policies are being exposed as not only ineffective, but profoundly evil as well.

Come November, voters will likely have a change of heart

Washington Times, By Robert Knight, June 30, 2025

Iran's nuclear enrichment facilities were not the only things going up in smoke last week, courtesy of American bombers sent by President Trump.

The Democratic Party's recent attempts to appear worthy of national leadership also were blown to smithereens. Many prominent party figures have foolishly assailed the successful raid.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez actually tried to launch an impeachment inquiry after Mr. Trump did the world a favor and declawed one of the world's most dangerous regimes. The gambit was easily defeated by a vote of 344-79, with 216 Republicans joined by 128 Democrats voting no. It did draw 79 yes votes from Democrats, whose party was complacent when Presidents Clinton, Obama and Biden bombed other countries.

Ms. Ocasio-Cortez called Mr. Trump's masterstroke "a grave violation of the Constitution and Congressional War Powers. He has impulsively risked launching a war that may ensnare us for generations."

No, he just saved us from a militant Islamist regime that would welcome nuclear self-annihilation and martyrdom as long as Israel and the U.S. were also devastated by nukes.

We know how European nations feel about it: relief. They showed it by hailing Mr. Trump at NATO's leadership summit last week and adopting his plan to double their defense spending by 2035. This will take some of the burden off the United States, which has long subsidized Europe's defense. It also means NATO countries will be in a far stronger position to help Ukraine against Russia.

Meanwhile, the party's primary voters last week chose an Israel-hating, communist Muslim as their candidate in the upcoming New York mayoral race. You couldn't make this up.

Zohran Mamdani, 33, has become the latest champion of the Free Stuff army, the electoral cohort empowered under former President Barack Obama that wants everything in their lives paid for by other people.

Every one of Mr. Mamdani's favored policies has a proven track record of making things worse, especially for the poor and working classes.

He wants more rent control, a leftist scheme that has devastated large swaths of New York apartments abandoned by hundreds of landlords who could no longer afford to maintain their properties.

Owners of tony residences overlooking Central Park that are rent-controlled deal with it by subletting at exorbitant rates, thus putting these units even more out of reach for all but the mega-rich.

Remember: The rich, like Sen. Bernard Sanders, the Vermont independent who owns four homes, are never affected by the Democrats' share-the wealth socialism. It's the working and middle classes that take it on the teeth.

Mr. Mamdani also wants to raise the hourly minimum wage to \$30 by 2030, which would destroy small businesses and entry-level jobs. He wants taxpayers to pay for childcare and bus rides and, like the good Marxist he is, wants the city to own and operate grocery stores. You know, like the wonderful food dispensaries in Havana and Pyongyang.

He has supported the “defund the police” movement, wants to “tax the rich” and has an unblemished anti-Israel record. He was arrested during a “day of jihad” protest against Israel just after Hamas invaded from Gaza on Oct. 7, 2023, massacring 1,200 Jews.

Mr. Mamdani supports the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement against Israel and has vowed to arrest Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu if the Israeli prime minister sets foot in New York.

Like many other American cities, thanks to years of illegal immigration, Gotham is undergoing demographic change. Still, New York has more Jews than any other city in the world outside Israel.

Mr. Mamdani’s primary victory is thus jarring on a number of levels. It’s partly because his main opponent was sex-scandal-riven former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who garnered only 36.4% of the vote. Also, incumbent Mayor Eric Adams left the Democratic Party and is running as an independent.

It’s also because many secular Jewish voters worship liberalism instead of the God of the Bible. The false liberal deity’s promise of government-enforced equal outcomes is the heart of diversity, equity and inclusion. It fuels every leftist cause, including transgenderism and climate extremism.

Many of the Democratic Party’s most cherished policies are being exposed as ineffective and profoundly evil. These include a welfare system that destroys families, ruinous taxation, vaccine mandates and lockdowns, abortion up to the moment of birth, and subjecting gender-confused children to castration and breast removal.

Party leaders recently ousted gun control firebrand David Hogg, 25, from his perch as vice chairman of the Democratic National Committee. They did so after he threatened to run candidates in primaries against incumbent Democrats, he deems too moderate. After Mr. Mamdani’s victory, Mr. Hogg proclaimed: “The establishment is cooked. Cuomo is a canary in the coal mine.”

Maybe, but I suspect that New Yorkers will recover from their insanity in November, if only to keep Mr. Hogg’s philosophical soulmate from becoming the face of the Democratic Party heading into 2026 and 2028.

In Democratic-heavy New York, a reelection win by Mr. Adams is a more likely scenario than a surprise victory by Republican nominee Curtis Sliwa, founder of the anti-crime Guardian Angels.